

Wing Tips



THE AEROSPACE EDUCATION NEWSLETTER OF NEW YORK WING

Col Austyn W. Granville, Jr., Wing Commander
Lt Col Marilyn Rey, Director of Aerospace Education

SPRING 2003

Marilyn A. Rey, Editor
Julian P. Wilder, Founding Editor

THINKING EXTERNALLY

No one in the Civil Air Patrol has a more challenging, but exciting responsibility than Aerospace Education Officers. Our role is directly correlated to Public Law 476...to provide aviation education...fostering the need of civil aviation in local communities.

As AE Officers, we mentor cadets and senior members, but our role is a little more important because we are also involved in community outreach. In other words, from a Public Affairs standpoint, we perform the third PA function of Community Relations or Community Outreach.

This is done nationally by attempting to connect with educators to bring our programs into the schools and, especially, the annual National Congress on Aerospace Education

At a local level, this is done through co-operative efforts with other organizations, open houses, speaking events in schools, providing a whole host of educational materials, CAP-sponsored tours of aviation activities or airports, local and regional workshops, and through recruiting of Aerospace Education Members.

Local programs can be effective in this regard if you make your presence known as a resource available to your local school or youth organization. Make your activities fun...like building kites, paper or model aircraft or rockets, and then have a contest. Develop a list of unit members skilled in various aspects of aviation, a Speakers Bureau, for aerospace programs, or activities. Develop a public activity like a mall display, contest, or from a larger context, a unit or an airport Open House, to reach out. Most importantly....HAVE FUN!

FOSSETT TO BE HONORED

Balloonist Steve Fossett has been named by the National Aeronautic Association to be the 2002 recipient of the Harmon Trophy. The NAA is recognizing Fossett for his round-the-world balloon flight in the summer of 2002...a trip that made him the first person to circle the globe solo in a balloon. The flight aboard a Roziere-type helium balloon, measuring 80-feet tall and 60-feet wide, began June 19, 2002, in Australia on June 19, 2002 and ended 356 hours and 20,600 miles later. This aircraft is now at the National Air & Space Museum in Washington.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

With the tragic loss of the Shuttle Columbia, there now have now been 27 astronauts (or astronaut candidates) who have lost their lives in tragic accidents. Most people can name the crews of the Shuttles Challenger and the Columbia. Few can name the three astronauts lost during the Apollo One pad fire: Gus Grissom, Ed White and Roger Chaffee. But can you name the others?

Elliott See, Charles Bassett, Theodore Cody Freeman, and C.C. Williams, all died in T-38 crashes while training to be astronauts. Edward Givens was killed in an auto accident near the Johnson Space Center. Michael James Adams and John B. McKay died in X-15 crashes. Robert Henry Lawrence Jr. (who would have been our nation's first black astronaut), Russell Rodgers and James M. Taylor, were lost in flying mishaps involving F-104s and F-105s. All three men were either candidates for the U.S. Air Force's X-20 or Manned Orbital Laboratory programs. Have a cadet research Manned Orbital Laboratory, the X-20, and the program, "Blue Gemini" for a report.

WING CONFERENCE TO BE AT OWEGO, MAY 30-JUN 1

This year's Wing Conference will be held in Owego (not Oswego!) on the weekend of May 30 to Jun 1. The Aerospace Education seminar will consist of an exchange of ideas and plans to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Flight.

Groups will be participating in an Aerospace Education Display Contest and individual members are invited to participate in the Aerospace Education Poster Contest. Rules and instructions had been sent to Groups, earlier.

IMPROVEMENTS TO WING TIPS

Readers may have noticed some improvements to Wing Tips since our Internal Aerospace Education Officer, Capt George Geller started contributing articles. Now, we are getting further improvements with articles from our External Aerospace Education Officer, Capt George Fillgrove. He can be contacted at flyboy@flmtgif.org.